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Page 2

**Listing of the Claims:**

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter comprising an  
An antisense oligonucleotide consisting essentially  
comprising 10 or more contiguous bases of the nucleotide  
sequence A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, or M set forth in  
any one of [{}]]SEQ ID NOS: 1 and 3-13), respectively  
wherein the oligonucleotide is conjugated to a peptide and  
wherein the oligonucleotide is complementary to a bcl-xL-  
encoding mRNA and inhibits translation thereof.

6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter comprising an  
An antisense oligonucleotide consisting of the nucleotide  
sequence B—( set forth in SEQ ID NO:2[{}]] wherein the  
oligonucleotide is conjugated to a peptide and wherein the  
oligonucleotide is complementary to a bcl-xL-encoding mRNA  
and inhibits translation thereof.

10-42. (Canceled)

43. (Currently Amended) A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition comprising  
an effective amount of an antisense oligonucleotide of  
claim 5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein  
the effective amount is between 0.1  $\mu$ M and 10  $\mu$ M.

44-47. (Canceled).